

Message Text

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EUR/NE - STEPHAN WORRELL (SUBS)

EUR/CE - GEORGE HUMPHREY (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

INFO SECDEF

CNO

CINCLANTFLT

CINCUSNAVEUR

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 172146

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, OCLR, MNUC, GW, NO, UK

SUBJECT:AUGMENTED OPERATIONS OF NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIP
(NPW) USS SOUTH CAROLINA

REFERENCES: (A) STATE 131054 (NOTAL); (B) BONN 09258
(NOTAL); (C) OSLO 02400 (NOTAL); (D) STATE 168269 (NOTAL);
(E) OSLO 2988 (NOTAL)

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1. REFTEL A PROVIDED INFORMATION ON NAVY PLANNING FOR

FORTHCOMING OPERATIONS BY USS SOUTH CAROLINA, A NEW NUCLEAR POWERED CRUISER, AND REQUESTED EMBASSIES BONN AND OSLO CONDUCT ADVANCED LOW KEY COORDINATION FOR PORT VISITS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS. REFTELS B AND C REPORTED FAVORABLE REACTIONS FROM FRG AND NORWAY CONCERNING PORT VISITS BY SOUTH CAROLINA. HOWEVER, REFTEL C ADDED THAT VISIT TO OSLO SHOULD OCCUR AFTER 14-15 SEP ELECTIONS. IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN REFTEL D FOR A VISIT OF NUCLEAR POWERED AIRCRAFT CARRIER, NIMITZ, TO OSLO PRIOR TO THE NORWEGIAN ELECTIONS, REFTEL E ASSESSED THAT REACTION STILL WOULD BE UNFAVORABLE, BUT REPEATED DESIRE FOR NPW VISIT TO NORWAY IN THE COMING YEAR.

2. NAVY NOW IS PLANNING FOR NIMITZ AND A NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE (SSN) TO ACCOMPANY SOUTH CAROLINA IN A

NUCLEAR TASK GROUP DEPLOYMENT TO NORTHERN EUROPE AND UK. FOLLOWING PORT VISITS FOR THE TASK GROUP ARE TENTATIVELY PLANNED:

A. LATE AUGUST - EARLY SEPTEMBER (ABOUT FOUR DAYS)
WILHELMSHAVEN - NIMITZ
BREMERHAVEN - SOUTH CAROLINA AND SSN

B. EARLY SEPTEMBER (ABOUT FOUR DAYS)
EDINBURGH - NIMITZ, SOUTH CAROLINA AND SSN

C. MID SEPTEMBER (ABOUT FOUR DAYS)
SOUTHERN UK PORTS - NIMITZ, SOUTH CAROLINA AND SSN

3. FOR BONN, LONDON: BECAUSE PLANNED PORT VISITS NOW INVOLVE THREE NPWS, REQUEST REASSESSMENT OF FRG REACTION AND ASSESSMENT OF UK REACTION PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF ROUTINE DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE REQUESTS BY THE NAVY. AT THEIR DISCRETION, EMBASSIES MAY MAKE LOW KEY APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING VISITS BY ADDITIONAL NPWS.

4. FOR OSLO: WE REGRET SCHEDULING CONSTRAINTS WILL NOT PERMIT EITHER NIMITZ OR SOUTH CAROLINA TO VISIT OSLO AFTER THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, NAVY IS NOW
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PREPARING TENTATIVE PLANS FOR USS CALIFORNIA, ANOTHER NEW NUCLEAR POWERED CRUISER TO DEPLOY TO NORTHERN EUROPE IN LATE SEPTEMBER WITH A POSSIBLE PORT VISIT TO OSLO IN MID-OCTOBER. WHEN PLANS FOR THIS VISIT FIRM, A FORMAL REQUEST WILL BE SUBMITTED THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS NORMALLY USED FOR ROUTINE PORT VISITS AS RECOMMENDED REFTEL C. KISSINGER

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